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TETON

National Forest



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FOREST SERVICE • OGDEN, UTAH

TETON

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CLARK BRONSON

The Teton National Forest, headquartered in Jackson, Wyoming, encompasses three sides of famed Jackson Hole. Portions of this National Forest were included in the original Yellowstone Park Timber Land Reserve established March 30, 1891, the first public forest reservation in the United States. The actual establishment of the Teton National Forest came about on July 1, 1908.

The fabulous history of this area, its explorers, mountain men, trappers, Indians, ranchers and townfolk has been the subject of numerous articles, chapters and books. Its "Old West" flavor has made it a popular vacation stop for millions.

The Teton National Forest itself, composed of 1,700,781 acres of mountainous terrain, along with the two neighboring National Parks, plays a big part in keeping travelers longer than they plan. Here, at elevations from 6,000 to 12,165 feet, they find the headwaters of the Yellowstone River and South Fork of the Snake River and its main tributaries, the Buffalo River, the Gros Ventre (pronounced Grow Vahnt) and the Hoback. The geographical location of the Teton National Forest, near the Continental Divide, makes this an important water yield area with about 24" average annual precipitation in the form of rain and snow. Over 1,000 miles of streams and 2,000 acres of mountain lakes offer native cut-throat, eastern brook, mackinaw, and rainbow trout fishing.

Wildlife is an attraction for the Teton National Forest visitor at every season of the year. During the summer you are apt to see any of the following: trumpeter swan, sandhill crane, ducks and geese, grouse, hawks of several species, golden and bald eagle, coyote, ground squirrel, black bear, raven . . . possibly even beaver, marten, bobcat, otter, or mink.

Thousands of elk are scattered through the Forest and are a treat to the traveler. In winter these move down and concentrate in large numbers in the valley.

Mule deer too are frequently spotted during a visit to the Teton. In winter they frequent sagebrush slopes, and it is possible to see as many as

300 in an hour just a few miles from the Supervisor's Office in Jackson.

Moose have been on the increase in recent years. Their favorite food is the willow growing along river bottoms. Take pictures of these large members of the deer family, but **follow the wildlife photographers rule of not getting too close.**

Occasionally, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep may be seen on the Teton National Forest. Watch for them in early morning and late evening, particularly along the Gros Ventre River around Red Hills, along the lower end of Crystal Creek and in the vicinity of Stinking Springs in Hoback Canyon.

During the fall months, Jackson Hole and the Teton National Forest attract thousands of hunters from all over America. Some 65 outfitters with campsite permits on the National Forest pack many hunters into back areas for the wilderness experience of a lifetime.

Harvest by rifle helps keep game in balance with available food supplies and provides sport and meat. Annually some 4,000 elk are taken along with 700 to 1,500 deer and 400 moose. The bighorn sheep hunt is limited. Contact the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission for additional information on hunting and fishing.

When winter sets in, about 7,500 elk move down from the Forest to the Fish and Wildlife Service National Elk Refuge. Travelers come to the area to see this sight which is unequalled elsewhere in the United States.

The first cattle were brought into Jackson Hole in 1883. They encountered favorable conditions and cattle ranching became a principal industry. It is today, and the bowlegs you see in Levis on the boardwalks of Jackson were probably warped by long hours in the saddle punchin' cattle.

To stabilize local ranching economy, grazing on National Forests was put on a permit system in 1901. There are presently 17 allotments on the Forest where 62 permittees graze about 14,000 cattle. The normal grazing season begins in early June. Then ranchers drive the cattle to

specified range units. The animals are moved to obtain the best use of feed and to manage the ranges properly. In fall, the herds are returned to the ranches for marketing or winter feeding.

About 11,000 sheep use the southern portion of the Teton National Forest for two months during mid-summer. Around 3,000 horses used as pack and saddle stock by dude ranchers, commercial outfitters and private owners graze on the Forest at some time during the summer and fall.

Mention was made earlier of 65 outfitters packing hunters into back country. Additionally, 40 packers take groups into the back country during the summer months for photography, fishing and the enjoyment of wilderness experience. Several hundred horse owners do their own packing individually or in groups.

In addition to the dispersed type outdoor activities which constitute the majority of the Teton National Forest recreation, there are the concentrated forms: camping and picnicking along travel routes, skiing on Snow King Mountain, Teton Pass, and near Crystal Springs, swimming in the Granite Creek Hot Springs and sightseeing from a number of pullouts and overlooks along highways.

The timber of the Teton National Forest contributes materially to the aesthetics of this country. Aspen, Englemann spruce, Douglas fir, alpine fir, whitebark and limber pine, and lodgepole pine provide a pleasing backdrop for the photographer, protection to vital watersheds, shade for campgrounds, and homes for large and small animals and birds.

Lodgepole pine is the principal commercial tree species, and approximately ten million board feet are cut annually. Because of an epidemic of mountain pine beetle (you may notice brown-needled infested pine trees) timber sales are made in stricken areas as a control measure. Most timber is sold to local sawmills.

A major Forest attraction is the Teton Wilderness Area, 563,500 acres (885 square miles) of back country accessible only on foot or horseback. Each season over 8,000 visitors spend approximately eight days apiece on the trails of

this hinterland, set aside for the preservation of primitive conditions.

One group of wilderness hikers recently met by the Ranger included a gentleman with a crippled leg. He was a backpacker 30 miles from his starting point, and both he and his wife were eagerly anticipating the spiritual and physical experiences of the 40 miles ahead. Others, old and young, rich and poor, handicapped and sound find refreshment in this vast region.

The Wilderness offers views of coniferous timber, waterfalls, wide meadows, lakes and streams (providing excellent fishing) and broad valleys. Along the Continental Divide, the visitor sees steep canyons and barren alpine country where snowfall is not uncommon in July. The highest point on the Teton National Forest is Yount's Peak, 12,165 feet, at the head of the Yellowstone River.

Highlights of a wilderness trip might include a look at Yellowstone Meadow, a mile wide and seven miles long, through which the Yellowstone River meanders. This is a favored spot for big game.

Two Ocean Pass is unusual. Here Two Ocean Creek divides and sends one stream to the Pacific Ocean and the other to the Atlantic.

Another feature worth seeing would be the falls on the South Fork of the Buffalo River, dropping over 100 feet into a canyon not over 50 feet wide.

About six miles up the Gros Ventre River above the community of Kelly is an outstanding example of a phenomenal geologic landslide.

The slide occurred on June 23, 1925. The uppermost part broke loose 2,000 feet above the river on the south side. Earth and rock roared down the mountain, crossed the Gros Ventre River and carried debris 400 feet up the north side of the valley. The dam formed, 225 feet high and nearly a mile wide, completely blocked the river and impounded the water in a lake five miles long.

Seepage through the dam kept pace with the inflow of water into the lake until May 1927. Then heavy rains and melting snow caused a

rapid rising of the lake. On May 18 the dam was overtopped, the top 50 feet gave away, and a sudden and disastrous flood rolled down on Kelly. Six people were drowned. Livestock and homes were lost. The high watermark of the original lake can now be seen on both sides of the present Lower Slide Lake.



LANDS OF MANY USES

Multiple use and sustained yield management of National Forests has a firm background in law, regulations, and policy. The Forest Service is directed by Congress under the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act (Public Law 86-517) to administer and manage all renewable resources (recreation, forage, timber, water, and wildlife habitat) for sustained and harmonious use.

The term "multiple use" means the management of all the renewable surface resources of the National Forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of all the American people.

Harmonious and coordinated management of outdoor recreation, forage, timber, watershed, and wildlife is achieved by giving consideration to their relative values, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.



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Breccia Cliffs, north of Togwote Pass, typify scenic attractions of the Teton National Forest. Other interesting formations are found in the Hoback Canyon and the Gros Ventre drainage.

Lower Slide Lake was formed in 1925 by the famed Gros Ventre (pronounced Grow Vahnt) Slide seen in the background. The slide was one of the largest in this country and was designated a Geological Area by the Forest Service.

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The Teton National Forest is an excellent area for viewing wildlife. Coyotes like the one sitting in the snowbank above are not uncommon. Elk, deer, moose and birdlife are seen every day by travelers.



Water originating on the Teton National Forest has scenic and utilitarian value. It provides sustenance for the other resources; wood, wildlife, forage and outdoor recreation, and gives life to the agricultural economy of the area.



Snow King Ski Area, adjacent to the town of Jackson, lies on the Teton National Forest. Teton Pass, to the west is another popular early season area. North of Jackson, a new area is being developed near Crystal Springs. The four to five year olds taking a lesson are not at all rare in this ski-conscious area.

Outfitters pack hunters, fishermen and sight-seers into remote areas of the Teton National Forest. This is a typical back country elk hunting camp.



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Beefsteak on the hoof being moved to suitable grazing range is a common summer sight on the Teton National Forest. Cattle and sheep and several thousand saddle and pack horses graze the Forest each summer and fall.

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Parting of the waters — at a point on the Continental Divide in the Teton Wilderness Area, Two Ocean Creek Separates. One stream eventually reaches the Atlantic Ocean; the other the Pacific.



Granite Hot Springs, about 10 miles from U. S. Highway 189, is a welcome stop for travelers visiting the Teton National Forest. The hot springs, operated under a special use permit is located in scenic Granite Creek on the route from Jackson to Kemmerer, Wyoming.



Lodgepole pine is the principal commercial timber species on the Teton. About 10 million board feet are cut annually. Most is sold to local saw mill operators.





U S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
EDWARD P. CLIFF, CHIEF
TETON NATIONAL FOREST
WYOMING
SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN
1964

Scale
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Miles

LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- Adjacent National Forest Boundary
- Wilderness Area Boundary
- Paved Road
- All Weather Road
- Dirt Road
- Primitive Road
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Forest Development Road
Prefix numbers are not shown
- Trail
- Forest Supervisors Headquarters
- Ranger Station
- Guard or Ranger Station not permanently occupied
- Improved Recreation Site
- Urban Areas
- Teton National Forest Land

RECREATION SITES ON THE TETON NATIONAL FOREST

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ONLY YOU
CAN PREVENT
FOREST FIRES

Special Features
Nearby and Remarks

Boating

Swimming

Hunting

Fishing

Season of Use

Elevation (Approx.)

Day Limit

Fee Charged

Drinking Water

Picnicking

Camping Units

Name of
Recreation Site

Map Location

Map Number

1	D-3	Snake River Campground, 2 miles S. of South Gate Yellowstone National Park	35	X	X	\$1.00 per Day/Family	6600	June to Oct.	X	X	X	Huckleberry Hot Springs Swimming pool. Saddle Horses at Flat Ranch. Between Yellowstone & Grand Teton N. P.'s
2	E-5	Lava Creek Campground 4 miles E. of Moran Junction	5	X	X		6700	June to Oct.	X	X		Four miles E. of Grand Teton National Park
3	E-5	Hatchet Campground 5 miles E. of Moran Junction	9	X	X		7000	June to Oct.	X	X		Nine miles E. of Grand Teton National Park
4	F-5	Four Mile Meadow Campground 14 miles E. of Moran Jct.	6	X	X		7800	June to Oct.	X			
5	D-6	Atherton Cr. Campground 6 miles E. of Kelly on Lower Slide Lake	10	X	X		7300	June to Oct.	X	X	X	Two miles East of Gros Ventre Slide
6	E-6	Red Hills Campground, 10 miles E. of Kelly on Gros Ventre River	5	X	X		7300	June to Oct.	X	X		Located in the Red Hills of the Gros Ventre
7	E-6	Crystal Cr. Campground, 11 miles E. of Kelly on Gros Ventre River	6	X	X		7300	June to Oct.	X	X		Located in the Red Hills of the Gros Ventre
8	D-7	Curtis Canyon Campground 8 miles N.E. of Jackson	12	X	X		6800	June to Oct.	X	X		Excellent view of Teton Mountains & Jackson Hole
9	C-7	Snow King Picnic Area		X			7800	June to Oct.	X	X		Excellent view of Teton Mountains & Jackson Hole,
12	D-9	Hoback Campground, 14 miles S. of Jackson, U. S. 189, & 8 miles E.	20	X	X		6200	June to Oct.	X	X		Hoback Canyon
11	E-8	Granite Creek Campground 28 mi. S.E. of Jackson on U.S. 189 & 7 miles North	42	X	X		7100	June to Oct.	X	X		Granite Hot Springs, Swimming Pool. Saddle Horses at Granite Ranch. Spectacular Scenery
10	E-8	Granite Hot Springs Swimming and Picnic Area, 28 miles S.E. of Jackson on U.S. 189 & 9 miles South	10	X	X	\$75 per Day	7100	June to Oct.	X	X	X	Swimming pool and Spectacular Scenery
13	D-9	Kozy Campground, 30 miles S.E. of Jackson on U.S. 189	8	X	X		6500	June to Oct.	X	X		On Hoback River